



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

Paper No. 9

AKC PATENTS  
215 Grove Street  
Newton, MA 02466

MAY 17 2003

In re Application of :  
Paul P. Castrucci :  
Application No. 09/429,869 : DECISION ON PETITION  
Filed: October 29, 1999 : TO MAKE SPECIAL  
For: LASER MICROCLEANING :  
APPARATUS AND METHODS :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102, filed March 17, 2003, via facsimile transmission, to make the above-identified application special.

Petitioner requests that the above-identified application be made special under the accelerated examination procedure set forth in Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.) § 708.02, Section IV: Applicant's Age.

A grantable petition to make special under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Section IV, must include a showing, as by a birth certificate or the applicant's affidavit or declaration, that the applicant is sixty five (65) years of age or more. No fee is required for this petition.

The petition includes a copy of the Driver's License of the inventor issued by the state of Vermont showing that he is over sixty five (65) years of age.

Accordingly, the petition is GRANTED.

The application is being forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.

If the examiner can make this application special without prejudice to any possible interfering applications, and he/she should make a rigid search for such, he/she is authorized to do so for the

On Petition

next action. Should the application be rejected, the application will not be considered special for the subsequent action unless the applicant promptly makes a bona fide effort to place the application in condition for allowance, even if it is necessary to have an interview with the examiner to accomplish this purpose.

If the examiner finds any interfering application for the same subject matter, he/she should consider such application simultaneously with this application and should state in the official letter of such application that he/she is taking it out of its turn because of possible interference.

Should an appeal be taken in this application or should this application becomes involved in an interference, consideration of the appeal and the interference will be expedited by all Patent and Trademark Office officials concerned, contingent likewise upon diligent prosecution by the applicant.

After allowance, this application will be given priority for printing. See M.P.E.P. § 1309.

The petition is granted to the extent indicated.

  
Hien H. Phan, Special Program Examiner  
Technology Center 2800  
Semiconductors, Electrical and Optical  
Systems and Components